

The Flour Mill is a Good Start. Now All Together for Something Else

St. Helens Mist

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PENDER IS OUT OF PENITENTIARY

IS IN CLATSOP COUNTY
Convicted Man Made a Trusty and is Working in Adjoining County.

John A. Pender, convicted of the murder of Mrs. Daisy Wehrman and her three year old son near Scappoose on September 4, 1911, is no longer confined within the walls of the state penitentiary. Presumably the state pardoning board made a recommendation to the governor that Pender be liberated, so the man accused and convicted of the foulest murder in the history of the county has, according to the governor's statement to the Mist, been made a trusty and sent to some place in Clatsop county to do farm or road work. The Mist learned of Pender's release some days ago, but, waiting for the daily press to say something about the matter, did not fully investigate the rumor. Nothing appearing in the daily press of the state, the Mist called up Governor Withycombe and asked if Pender had been granted a conditional pardon. The governor stated that such was not the case, but upon being pressed for information as to the whereabouts of Pender he stated that the man convicted of the double murder had been made a "trusty" and sent down to do road work in Clatsop county. The governor was asked for his reasons for liberating Pender, but he refused to give any. The Mist then telegraphed the governor asking for a statement so that the people of Columbia county might know why Pender had been released. After a day of waiting the governor sent the following brief telegram:

"Salem, Oregon, March 21, 1917. St. Helens Mist, St. Helens, Oregon. Pender has not been paroled or pardoned. James Withycombe."

So this is all the information we can give our readers, except the fact that Pender is no longer in the penitentiary.



JOHN A. PENDER

The history of this murder case is well known to Columbia county residents and the state at large. The murder occurred on or about September 4, 1911, and on September 25 Pender was arrested and placed in jail charged with the crime. His preliminary trial was before Judge Hazen, and he was bound over to the grand jury. In October the grand jury met and returned an indictment against Pender. Some months later the case was brought to trial before Judge Campbell and a jury in the circuit court. After eleven days of listening to the evidence, the case was submitted to the jury who, after being out 40 hours, reported to the judge they were unable to agree. It was reported that all of the twelve jurors considered Pender guilty, but one of the jury was undecided as to the degree of guilt. The second trial of the accused man began October, 1913, and after days of legal battling and the submission of evidence, Judge Eakin submitted the case to the jury, who, after being out from 9 o'clock Friday evening to 2 o'clock Saturday, rendered a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree. Thirty days were allowed the attorneys for the defense for a new trial. The case was appealed to the supreme court and finally, in October, 1914, the sheriff received orders to commit the convicted man to the

NEHALEM LACKS TRANSPORTATION

County Agent Howard Says Lack of Facilities a Handicap to Farmers.

Columbia county's agricultural agent, D. C. Howard, has just returned from a trip to the Nehalem valley and is enthusiastic as to that section of the county. He states that the great barrier to the farmers' success is a lack of transportation facilities. At open Grange meetings at Natal and Vernonia, Mr. Howard suggested to the farmers that they could accomplish much more if they would concentrate on fewer crops and agree upon a type of farming whereby a finished product rather than the bulky raw materials could be transported. He cited instances in Tillamook and Coos counties where farmers instead of producing the bulky crops upon which the freight charges to market were one-half of the value of the product, had turned their attention to the production of butter, cheese, pork and beef, with the result that they are making very profitable returns from the farms. Mr. Howard said, "The Nehalem valley farmers have just as great an opportunity as the farmers of those two counties, but they must get better cows and grow cheaper feed."

At the open meetings at Natal and Vernonia, the county agent advocated a rotation of crops and it was shown that the growing of some cultivated crop at least once in every four years was necessary. The rotation suggested was as follows: First year, grain seeded to clover and grasses; second year, clover for hay; third year, pasture, and fourth year, potatoes, a cash crop, corn or vetch for silo purposes.

The interest manifested was very gratifying to Mr. Howard, and he states that he can, by co-operation of the farmers, be in a position to help the agricultural interests of the county, a work that he is very anxious to perform.

ROAD IMPASSABLE

Omar Nickerson, who lives near Vernonia, was in St. Helens Sunday and Monday. He came over the Pittsburg road, using his feet as the necessary motive power, the road being impassable for conveyances. On the highest of the many high hills over which the road passes, Mr. Nickerson reported there was two feet of snow, so necessarily he didn't establish any new speed records.

penitentiary for execution. Governor Oswald West postponed the execution of Pender awaiting the vote as to whether capital punishment should be abolished. When the people of the state were in the affirmative on the measure, Pender was sentenced to life imprisonment. Since Pender has been in the state's penal institution, every effort and every pressure has been brought to bear to liberate the convicted man, and a so-called expert on criminology tried to fasten the crime on a degenerate boy but failed to do so.

Many responsible citizens of St. Helens were interviewed as to the governor's action in this matter, and 90 per cent of them severely condemn the decision of the pardoning board and the governor. Hon. Bert Tongue, who handled the state's side of the case, when called up by long distance phone and informed of the release of Pender, was much surprised, and when asked for an opinion stated that he "could only state it was a travesty on justice."

Neither Withycombe or the pardoning board consulted the county officials, and their decision in the matter came as a complete surprise. Many of the citizens of St. Helens have expressed their desire to call an indignation meeting demanding of the governor some reason for his action, and, as one responsible citizen and taxpayer expressed it, "What is the use of building an addition to the penitentiary; better tear the walls of the old one down and let all the criminals go." It appears that Governor Withycombe and the pardoning board are due to make some explanation to the citizens of the county.



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
Scappoose, Oregon

DEDICATORY SERVICES

The dedicatory services of the Scappoose Congregational church will be held Sunday, the 25th inst., at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Many Portland ministers and their families have indicated their desire to attend the services. The pastor, Rev. Chas. H. Johnston, and the officers of the church have issued invitations to all of the surrounding churches. The musical part of the program will be under the direction of Mr. Niblock. Rev. L. R. Dyott, D. D., of the First Congregational church in Portland, will preach the sermon, and Pastor Johnston will make a financial statement before the offering is taken. The congregation hopes that many visitors will be present at the dedication, and a cordial invitation is extended to all to attend.

It is expected that the contributions made will reach the \$200 mark, which will almost liquidate the indebtedness of the church. The structure to be dedicated is one of the most substantial church edifices in the county and the residents of Scappoose and vicinity are proud of it.

FLOUR MILL WILL BE BUILT HERE

Secretary Lidyard of the Commercial Club is Positive of This.

That work will soon begin on the construction of a flour mill in St. Helens is the positive statement made by Secretary Lidyard of the commercial club. An eastern capitalist has been in St. Helens several times looking over the advantages of the city as a location for a mill, and picked out a site on the property of the Western Co-operative Works, just a few hundred yards north of the depot. He stated that if he could obtain that site he would build a 50-barrel per day capacity mill. Parties representing the commercial club called on the Western Co-operative officials in Portland and after explaining for what use the site was intended, the co-operative company offered to donate the site. So it seems that since this matter is cleared up, there is nothing in the way to prevent a prompt start on the construction of the mill. Officials of the commercial club feel gratified that their efforts apparently have accomplished something.

BISHOP SUMNER TO VISIT HERE SUNDAY

Will Preach Evening Sermon in Episcopal Church.

Bishop Walter T. Sumner will make his annual visit to the Christ Episcopal church Sunday and will conduct the evening services at 7:30. It has been about a year since the bishop visited this parish and the members of the local church are looking forward with much pleasure to his visit. It is expected that while here the bishop will make some definite promise as to supplying a rector for the church to make his headquarters here. At the present, services are held only once a month, Rev. Breck coming down from Portland to hold services. The members of the church think there would be a substantial growth of the church could services be held more regularly.

In response to a message stating that her father was dangerously ill, Mrs. A. S. Hisey left immediately for Lewiston, Idaho, to be at his bedside.



REV. C. H. JOHNSTON,
Pastor

MASS MEETING NAMES CANDIDATES

Citizens at Mass Meeting Select Candidates for City Officials.

A citizens' mass meeting was held at the city hall Tuesday night for the purpose of selecting candidates for city offices to be voted on at the coming election, April 2. S. C. Morton was made chairman and E. E. Quick secretary of the meeting. After a discussion of the proposed charter amendments relative to the reduction in water rates and the bonding for sewer indebtedness, nominations for councilmen were called for.

J. W. Allen and E. I. Ballagh were placed in nomination, but Mr. Ballagh declined, stating that he had served the city for two years in such capacity and was willing to let someone else take up the burden. A. W. Mueller nominated J. W. McDonald, and A. F. Barnett nominated Von A. Gray. No further nominations being made, the nominations were declared closed and a ballot taken, which resulted as follows:

J. W. Allen 24
J. W. McDonald 15
Von A. Gray 26

Allen and Gray were declared the nominees.

The meeting then selected a candidate for water commissioner. L. E. Allen nominated J. G. Pringle, the retiring commissioner, and C. C. Cassatt nominated J. L. Williams. No further nominations being made a ballot was taken which resulted in the selection of Mr. Williams, the vote being:

John G. Pringle 15
J. L. Williams 17
W. B. Dillard 4

No further business being before the mass meeting, a motion to adjourn was voted on which carried unanimously.

ST. PATRICK'S PARTY

Miss Marie Paulson and Miss Bess Hutton entertained the Himalaya Club at a St. Patrick's party last Saturday evening, at the home of Paulson. The rooms were prettily and appropriately decorated and the refreshments were suggestive of the occasion. Guests besides club members were Mrs. A. L. Stone, Miss Lillian Dinham and Mrs. J. T. Taber.

CITY COUNCIL IN BUSY SESSION

Judges and Clerks of Election Are Chosen at Meeting.

The city council met in regular session Monday night, all members being present. The committee appointed to investigate the feasibility of building a city dock asked more time in which to make a full report.

A communication was received from the fire department asking that the city provide some suitable conveyance for fire apparatus, and setting forth that a truck would be of great advantage to the fire fighters. The matter was taken under advisement.

The monthly bills were read and after slight corrections were ordered paid.

A resolution was introduced and adopted that the city council go on record as in favor of a new depot and that a communication be addressed to President Gilman of the Spokane, Portland & Seattle Railway Company stating that the council was willing to co-operate with the railroad company towards the establishment of a new depot.

The following election officers for the city election, to be held April 2, were appointed:

Ward No. 1
Judges—W. W. Blakesley, M. F. Hazen.

Clerks—Marie Paulson, Olga Heilborn, Anna Quick.

Ward No. 2
Judges—W. J. Mellinger, Ham Hautsman.

Clerks—Mrs. T. W. Oliver, Mrs. N. O. Larabee, Mrs. E. Plumley.

In the matter of damage to property of Mrs. S. E. Lynge by reason of construction of sewer in Sewer District No. 1, Section B, the marshal was instructed to see that the necessary repairs to the property were made.

After the disposition of several other matters, the council adjourned.

GOOD WOMAN GONE TO REST

Old Resident of Columbia County Passes to Great Unknown.

Mrs. Sine Hoven, wife of C. C. Hoven and mother of Martin Hoven, died at the family residence in Goble on Monday, the 12th inst. Deceased had been in failing health for some time and her death was not unexpected. With her husband and son, Mrs. Hoven settled in Goble in 1884 and has lived there since. At the time of her death Mrs. Hoven was 71 years of age, having been born in Norway in 1846. She leaves to mourn her loss her husband, C. C. Hoven, and son, Martin Hoven.

The funeral services were held in Goble Wednesday afternoon, the 14th, and the body was taken to Portland for cremation.

RAILROAD WORK IS PROGRESSING

Logging Operations Expected to Start by June 1.

Superintendent Weist of the H. B. & A. Logging Company is authority for the statement that his company expects to be in a position to start logging operations on or before June 1. In addition to having completed more than two-thirds of the high trestle at Looman's crossing, grading for a distance of two miles or to the Brinn place has about been completed. As soon as the trestle is finished and rails laid, material will be assembled and ties and rail laid on the grade now finished. Mr. Weist stated that he is satisfied with the progress being made, and if good weather prevailed his company would soon be dumping logs into Willamette slough. At the present time about 75 men are employed but when logging operations are begun the force will be increased to 125.

The McBride school in West St. Helens is soon to be equipped with a new heating plant and fixtures throughout. The school directors have ordered a new boiler, which will be installed during the coming week.

UNITED STATES BOATS MAY BE BUILT HERE

FOR COAST DEFENSE

Local Yard Has Received Inquiries From the Government.

In making preparations for the defense of the Pacific coast, the United States government will build many vessels on this coast. The Portland Chamber of Commerce has been informed that specifications for twenty submarines are now on the way to the coast. The construction of these vessels will cost millions and undoubtedly Portland will have an opportunity to secure some of the business. Federal Commissioner of Shipping Theodore Brent will be in Portland April 2 and conduct a meeting with the Columbia river shipbuilders. It is stated he will have proposals with him asking that Oregon shipbuilders bid on the construction of wooden patrol boats and submarine chasers. It is presumed that the yards in position to give dispatch will be favored, and this being the case, the St. Helens Shipbuilding Company undoubtedly will be in line to secure a considerable portion of the work. H. F. McCormick, local manager of the concern, states that a week ago he received a telegram from naval officials in Washington requesting information as to the yard's facilities for boat building and the dispatch that might be expected. This same inquiry was sent to all of the Pacific coast yards, so that now the government knows exactly what they may expect in a certain length of time.

Owing to the fact that it is almost impossible to secure machinery for either steamers or internal combustion boats, the St. Helens Shipbuilding Company has made no recent efforts to secure additional business, but it is presumed that they, along with other shipbuilders of the coast, have had information from the government to be in readiness to undertake government contracts for quick delivery. Mr. McCormick will attend the meeting of the shipbuilders in Portland on April 2, at which time information more definite will be given out. St. Helens will be pleased to learn of the probability of more ship work which would, of course, require the services of several hundred additional men.

RAYMOND LEWIS SENT TO REFORM SCHOOL

Youth Charged With Grave Offense Sent to State's Institution.

Raymond Lewis, of Clatskanie, who some weeks ago was arrested on a very serious charge, was brought before Judge R. S. Hattan in the juvenile court Wednesday morning. The boy acknowledged that he was guilty, and Judge Hattan made an order committing him to the state reform school and Sheriff Stanwood left yesterday morning with the lad in his charge for Salem. The boy's father was present at the hearing and offered no remonstrance at the action of the court but stated that he hoped the training which the young fellow would receive would be of benefit to him and that he would return to his Clatskanie home a better boy. As to how long Lewis will remain in the school depends upon his good behavior.

LUMBER SHIPMENTS FOR WEEK LARGE

Close to Four Million Feet Are Taken South.

For the week ending tomorrow night, the lumber shipments from St. Helens have been quite heavy. Four vessels have cleared, each taking full cargoes of lumber and piling. With both mills running full time and grinding out large amounts of lumber each day, several boats are needed each week to take care of the output. The shipments made during the past week are as follows:

	Feet.
Klamath, San Pedro	1,026,000
Willamette, San Pedro	876,000
Cello, San Pedro	975,000
Wapama, San Diego	1,000,000
Total	3,877,000